

Course Syllabus

[Jump to Today](#) **Edit**

Instructor Contact Information

[INSERT PICTURE
HERE]

Name: **[Type Name Here]**

Phone Number: **[Type Phone Number Here]**

Email (Ivy Tech Email): **[Type Email Here]**

Office/Campus Location: **[Type Location Here-remove this line if none exist]**

Office Hours: **[Type Office Hours Here-remove this line if none exist]**

Instructor's Supervisor

Name: **[Type Name Here]**

Phone Number: **[Type Phone Number Here]**

Email (Ivy Tech Email): **[Type Email Here]**

Office/Campus Location: **[Type Location Here-remove this line if none exist]**

Office Hours: **[Type Office Hours Here-remove this line if none exist]**

Ivy Tech Technical Support: Help Desk

Phone: 1-888-IVY-LINE (1-888-489-5463), select option 4

Student Help Center: <http://ivytech.edusupportcenter.com> [_ \(http://ivytech.edusupportcenter.com\)](http://ivytech.edusupportcenter.com)

Submit a Help Ticket: <https://helpdesk.ivytech.edu/SelfService/Create.html>
[_ \(https://helpdesk.ivytech.edu/SelfService/Create.html\)](https://helpdesk.ivytech.edu/SelfService/Create.html)

Ivy Tech Online Learning Support

Name: [Type Name Here]

Phone Number: [Type Phone Number Here]

Email (Ivy Tech Email): [Type Email Here]

Office/Campus Location: [Type Location Here-remove this line if none exist]

Office Hours: [Type Office Hours Here-remove this line if none exist]

Disabilities Support Contact

Regional DSS: <http://ivytech.edu/dss/> (<http://ivytech.edu/dss/>)

Required Text & Materials

This course does not require an outside text. This course is based on an open source textbook, therefore all needed materials are found within the course.

Title: [American Government](http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00016298/00001) (<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00016298/00001>)

Author: Timothy O. Lenz and Mirya Holman

Publisher: [University Press of Florida](http://ufdc.ufl.edu/) (<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/>)

ISBN: 978-1-61610-163-3

The open source textbook is [American Government](http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00016298/00001) (<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00016298/00001>), by Timothy O. Lenz and Mirya Holman. The work is licensed under a modified Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 3.0 Unported License.

Congratulations, this course uses Open Educational Resources (OER). All required course materials are available to you within this course. While there is no charge for the learning materials themselves, there is a small fee associated with the identification and implementation of the learning materials. **You paid this fee as part of your tuition and fees.** This fee typically represents a 90% savings for students, over what they would have paid for a traditional textbook, helping to make the college experience more affordable and accessible. OER saves Ivy Tech students hundreds of thousands of dollars. The learning materials provided are all digital and available here in IvyLearn. You are NOT required to purchase anything additional.

Details: 448 pages ISBN 13: 978-1-6161-0163-3 Published 5/22/2013

Available within IvyLearn as well as online here: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00016298/00001>
(<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00016298/00001>)

*Special Message for ICN Students

ICN students will be billed directly from Ivy Tech Community College. Your home institution does not collect these fees, so you will need to make payment to Ivy Tech when you receive this bill.

Course Outline of Record

PREREQUISITES: Demonstrated competency through appropriate assessment or earning a grade of “C” or better in (ENGL 093 Introduction to College Writing and ENGL 083 Reading Strategies for College) or ENGL 095 Integrated Reading and Writing.

SCHOOL: Liberal Arts and Sciences

PROGRAM: Liberal Arts

CREDIT HOURS: Three (3)

CONTACT HOURS: Lecture: Three (3)

DATE OF LAST REVISION: Fall 2013

EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS REVISION: Fall 2014

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Studies federalism, theories of the origins and purposes of government and other aspects of the American government including interest groups, political parties, and the electoral process. Emphasis is placed on constitutional backgrounds and the organization and functions of the executive, legislative, and judicial segments of the national government, civil liberties and civil rights, public opinion, media, bureaucracies, and domestic and foreign policy.

MAJOR COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be expected to:

1. Describe and discuss the foundations and bases of American government and democracy including the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Federalism.
2. Describe the various aspects of political behavior of individuals and groups including political parties, public opinion, media, nominations, campaigns, and elections.
3. Describe the operations of the various governmental institutions including executive, legislative, judicial, and administrative functions.
4. Evaluate recent global developments and their impact on public policy in the areas of domestic and foreign affairs.
5. Identify how the separate, but power-sharing institutions, including government agencies, private sector and interest groups, attempt to influence modern society.
6. Explain how power is granted to the national government and the states with limitations that safeguard civil liberties and civil rights.
7. Analyze and discuss the American political system and its effectiveness in meeting the major needs of society.
8. Evaluate American politics and government in a global and historical context as compared with other political systems and their various institutions, the ways their people are governed, and how their decisions are made and implemented.
9. Demonstrate and express an understanding of the complex international interconnections that give meaning to American politics and government.

COURSE CONTENT:

Topical areas of study include:

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| History and theories of government | Challenges of Federalism | Case Law | Globalism |
| Rise of American democracy | Civil Rights | Public Policy | Current Events |
| Constitutional structure | Civil Liberties | The Media | |

[College Policies & Support Services \(click on this link to review\)](#)

Students are strongly encourage to click the link above to review standard College policies and information on academic support services.

Course Policies & Procedures

Instructional Method

This is an online distance learning course. Each week's assignments and readings are summarized on the calendar, accessed from the Calendar button in IvyLearn. It takes a great deal of discipline, self-motivation, and effective time management skills to successfully complete an online course. Many students find it helpful to set aside specific times each week to work on course assignments.

Grades

All grades will be maintained in IvyLearn's online grade book. Students are responsible for tracking their progress by referring to the online grade book. Students can generally expect to receive grades and feedback within seven days of the assignment due date. If exceptions occur, the instructor may notify students of changes to this expectation.

Due Dates & Deadlines

The Syllabus and Calendar are two important tools to help students understand the course, student and instructor expectations, and deadlines. Both tools can be found in IvyLearn. The Calendar can be accessed from the main navigation area on the left-hand side of IvyLearn.

Students are required to submit work on time for a chance to receive credit. Deadlines for each week/assignment are summarized on the calendar. Students should check the calendar frequently for deadlines and to be aware of what to expect next. Deadlines are listed in Eastern Time and are subject to change. If you are in a time zone other than Eastern time please follow the directions found here to update your time zone: <https://guides.instructure.com/m/4212/l/717410-how-do-i-set-a-time-zone-in-my-user->

[account-as-a-student](https://guides.instructure.com/m/4212/l/717410-how-do-i-set-a-time-zone-in-my-user-account-as-a-student) [_ \(https://guides.instructure.com/m/4212/l/717410-how-do-i-set-a-time-zone-in-my-user-account-as-a-student\)](https://guides.instructure.com/m/4212/l/717410-how-do-i-set-a-time-zone-in-my-user-account-as-a-student)

Students are responsible for timely assignment submission. Should a computer system or network go down, students must still turn in work in a timely manner. Don't wait until the last minute. Plan ahead by seeking alternative means for submitting work before it is due. Local libraries and all Ivy Tech Community College campuses can serve as alternative resources. Contact the closest/most convenient campus or other public lab for schedules and Internet availability. Not having access to the required software on a home or work computer is **not** a legitimate excuse for turning in homework late.

Make-Up Policy

Late assignments will be assigned a grade of "0" unless a student has received prior approval from the instructor. If a student has a problem or scheduling conflict that prevents the student from submitting an assignment on time, the student should contact the instructor immediately. The instructor will determine if the seriousness of the problem warrants an extension on the assignment. Unless absolutely unavoidable, students need to contact their instructor **before** missing the deadline – not after. Instructors have the right to decline accepting work for any credit after a deadline passes with a few specific exceptions, including but not limited to:

- If there is an outage of the IvyLearn system that is verified by central system administrators, instructors will provide an extension for students to submit work at no penalty.
- If the student has documentation of serious illness or death of a family member, instructors will work with the student to determine an alternate deadline.

Attendance Policy – Don't Get Dropped from Class!

Ivy Tech performs administrative drops for students who do not "attend" class early in the semester.

Students need to complete an assignment (which may include, but are not limited to, such things as attending a live or synchronous session; posting in a graded discussion board, blog or wiki; or submitting a written assignment or taking a quiz) **prior to NW deadline listed below in order to avoid being dropped for non-attendance.** Posting any items not related to the graded assignments will be reviewed but may be disqualified for attendance purposes.

Attendance Drop Deadline: **Enter Time and Date HERE** – Eastern Time.

[Instructors, if the NW date is not known, please contact your campus registrar.]

Am I Required to Come to Campus for this Course?

Some online courses require students to go to a local Ivy Tech campus for an activity, lab, or proctored assessment. For this course, students do not have to come to campus for this course. There are no activities, labs, or assessments that require students to come to campus.

Last Day to Withdraw

If a student wishes to withdraw from this course, students are responsible for completing an official withdrawal form with the registrar. Your local registrar contact information can be looked up here:

<http://www.ivytech.edu/registrar/> (<http://www.ivytech.edu/registrar/>).

The last day to withdraw from this course is [Type Date Here].

[Instructors, if the last day to withdraw date is not known, please contact your campus registrar.]

Course Communication

Online Communication Etiquette

Students are expected to uphold their responsibilities in terms of appropriate and professional communication with faculty and peers. Please review the 'Students Rights and Responsibilities' section of the student handbook (located within MyIvy) and review common netiquette (Internet etiquette) practices, like those found at: https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/683084/pages/communicate-effectively?module_item_id=14665382

Instructor Commitment

Ivy Tech Community College instructors are committed to responding to students' written inquiries sent via the conversations tool in IvyLearn (instructions below), within 36 hours, including weekends.

Conversations

All students must use the conversations feature of IvyLearn for course-related communications. Using conversations, students can send and receive messages from within IvyLearn. Conversations must be initiated from within IvyLearn but can be replied to via email. Please check Conversations frequently.

For information on how to access Conversations (send and receive) [click this link to open the Canvas Guides \(https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2666\)](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2666) (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-2666>). The Canvas Guides will provide you with the necessary

information to get started with conversations within IvyLearn.

Notifications

IvyLearn has a robust notification system that students can opt to use to receive course notifications for many course activities and events such as new announcements, due dates, and grade updates. Students can receive those notifications via many different channels including text messages and are highly encouraged to customize their notifications. To learn more about notifications and how to setup and customize notifications, please review the guide here: <http://guides.instructure.com/m/4212/l/710344-how-do-i-set-my-canvas-notification-preferences-as-a-student>.
(<http://guides.instructure.com/m/4212/l/710344-how-do-i-set-my-canvas-notification-preferences-as-a-student>)

Additional Communication Options

Below are several additional optional ways to communicate with your instructor:

[GoToMeeting – Description ...](#)

[Phone – Description ...](#)

Assignments & Grading

Weekly Expectations

For this course, unless otherwise noted each week/module runs **Tuesday through Monday**. Each week, students must complete 1 module of this 16 module course.

For each class module, students will be expected to:

- Read the assigned materials (textbook and any additional articles provided).
- Take the quiz covering the assigned readings.
- **Participate in each module discussion board twice**, first by posting a response to the discussion question for that module and subsequently with a response to another student's post. **Your original post and response post must be made on two different calendar days during the week/module.**

Discussion Board Postings

Each week students will be given a discussion board topic. Students must post an original response to the prompt and respond to one other student. The original post is due by 11:59 p.m. on Thursday of each week; follow up responses must be posted by 11:59 p.m. on Monday of each week. You may post early and more than the minimum of twice, but you may not post only one calendar day. Discussion requires back and forth

and **you must demonstrate participation on more than a single day**. See the *IvyLearn Student User Guide* for instructions on how to post to a discussion board.

Notes:

- Posts must be substantive and address the topic/questions.
- When responding to a fellow classmate, use a minimum of three sentences and address some aspect of the classmate's original post.
- Keep your comments professional and relevant to the topics of discussion.
- Do not include unrelated personal information or comments.
- Respect others' thoughts and comments; anyone who is found to be using offensive or abusive language will not receive points for the discussion board assignment.

Assignments

In each module various activities that support the learning objectives will be assigned. Directions for the activities will vary. See each Module folder for activity details.

Quizzes

In each module students will be given a quiz over the instructional materials for that module. In order to give students adequate time to complete quizzes, they will be available until 11:59 p.m. on the day they are due (Eastern - Indy time). Students will have only one attempt to take the quiz within the allotted time, so it's important to allow sufficient time before starting the quiz.

Writing Assignments

Three times during the semester students will be required to submit an essay/writing assignment. Each assignment will have a unique set of directions and rubric. See each module in IvyLearn for details. Plan ahead, and do not wait until the last minute to begin these writing assignments! Specific information about each writing assignment can also be found under Resources / Writing Assignments and Rubrics.

Module 6 - Writing Assignment #1: Executive-Legislative Relations

Module 10 - Writing Assignment #2: Supreme Court Decision/ 4th Amendment

Module 14 - Writing Assignment #3: Public Policy Issue Analysis and Letter

Grades in this course are determined by the following criteria:

| Assignment Category | Quantity | Points / Percentage |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Discussions | (16 @ 15 pts) | 240 points 24% |
| Quizzes | (16 @ 15 pts) | 240 points 24 % |
| Assignments | (18 @ 15 pts) | 270 points 27% |
| Written (Essay) Assignments | (3 @ 50 pts) | 150 points 15% |
| Final Exam | (1 @ 100 pts) | 100 points 10% |












***There are a total of 1,000 possible points in this course.**
















****NO make-up or extra credit will be available at any time during the course.**

Grading Scale













| Points | Percentage | Letter |
|--------------------|------------|--------|
| 900 - 1000 points | 90% - 100% | A |
| 800 - 899 points | 80% - 89% | B |
| 700 - 799 points | 70% - 79% | C |
| 600 - 699 points | 60% - 69% | D |
| 599 points or less | Below 60% | F |

Course Summary:

| Date | Details |
|------------------|---|
| Mon Jan 22, 2018 |  M01 Assessment: Course Scavenger Hunt Quiz https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300476 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M01 Assignment: Political Ideology https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300512 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M01 Assignment: U.S. Citizenship (Quiz and Message) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300513 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M01 Discussion (Introductions) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300510 due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Jan 29, 2018 |  M02 Assessment: Reading Quiz https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300485 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M02 Assignment: Interpreting Historical Political Documents (Quiz) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300477 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M02 Discussion (Road to the U.S. Constitution) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300509 due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Feb 5, 2018 |  M03 Assessment: Reading Quiz https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300491 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M03 Assignment: The U.S. Constitution (Worksheet & Quiz) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300473 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M03 Assignment: The U.S. Constitution (Worksheet Only Option) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300514 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M03 Discussion (Federalism and Marijuana Policy) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300508 due by 11:59pm |

| Date | Details | |
|------------------|--|----------------|
| Mon Feb 12, 2018 |  M04 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300493) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M04 Assignment: Legislative Process (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300515) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M04 Discussion (Congress) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300507) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Feb 19, 2018 |  M05 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300482) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M05 Assignment: Redistricting Game (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300516) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M05 Discussion (Gerrymandering and Redistricting Reform) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300506) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Feb 26, 2018 |  M06 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300492) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M06 Assignment: Bureaucracy (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300517) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M06 Discussion (Presidential Powers and Qualities) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300505) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  Writing Assignment #1 - Essay: Executive-Legislative Relations (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300529) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Mar 5, 2018 |  M07 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300488) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M07 Assignment: Interactive Court (Quiz) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300487) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M07 Assignment: Interactive Court (Written Assignment Option) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300518) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M07 Discussion (Judiciary and Right to Privacy) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300504) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Mar 19, 2018 |  M08 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300489) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M08 Assignment: Imagine a World Without (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300519) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M08 Discussion (Capital Punishment) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300503) | due by 11:59pm |

| Date | Details | |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| Mon Mar 26, 2018 |  M09 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300486) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M09 Assignment: Media (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300520) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M09 Discussion (Public Opinion and Polling) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300502) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Apr 2, 2018 |  M10 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300490) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M10 Assignment: Political Socialization (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300521) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M10 Discussion (Moral Authority) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300501) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  Writing Assignment #2: Supreme Court Decision (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300530) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Apr 9, 2018 |  M11 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300481) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M11 Assignment: U.S. Political Parties Comparison (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300522) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M11 Discussion (Plurality) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300500) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Apr 16, 2018 |  M12 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300474) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M12 Assignment: Federalist #10 (Quiz) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300494) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M12 Assignment: Federalist #10 (Written Submission Only Option) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300523) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M12 Discussion (Super PACs) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300499) | due by 11:59pm |
| Mon Apr 23, 2018 |  M13 Assessment: Reading Quiz (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300475) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M13 Assignment: Electoral College (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300524) | due by 11:59pm |
| |  M13 Discussion (Voter Turnout) (https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300498) | due by 11:59pm |

| Date | Details |
|------------------|---|
| Mon Apr 30, 2018 |  M14 Assessment: Reading Quiz https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300479 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M14 Assignment: Public Policy Process https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300525 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M14 Discussion (Policy-making Process) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300497 due by 11:59pm |
| |  Writing Assignment #3: Issue Analysis/Letter https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300531 due by 11:59pm |
| Mon May 7, 2018 |  M15 Assessment: Reading Quiz https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300478 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M15 Assignment: Course Reflection https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300526 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M15 Assignment: Government Budgeting https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300527 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M15 Discussion (Domestic Policy) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300496 due by 11:59pm |
| Sat May 12, 2018 |  M16 Assessment: Reading Quiz https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300484 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M16 Assignment: International Organizations (IGOs v. NGOs) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300528 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M16 Discussion (Foreign Policy Issue) https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300495 due by 11:59pm |
| |  M16 Final Exam https://ivylearn.ivytech.edu/courses/660127/assignments/6300480 due by 11:59pm |